

ABSOLUTE

BATMAN



ALL IN

15+
TEEN+

20



SNYDER
DRAGOTTA
MARTIN

DRAGOTTA

FROM EISNER AWARD-WINNING WRITER
MARIKO TAMAKI AND FAN-FAVORITE ARTIST **AMANCAY NAHUEL PAN**



BARBARA GORDON

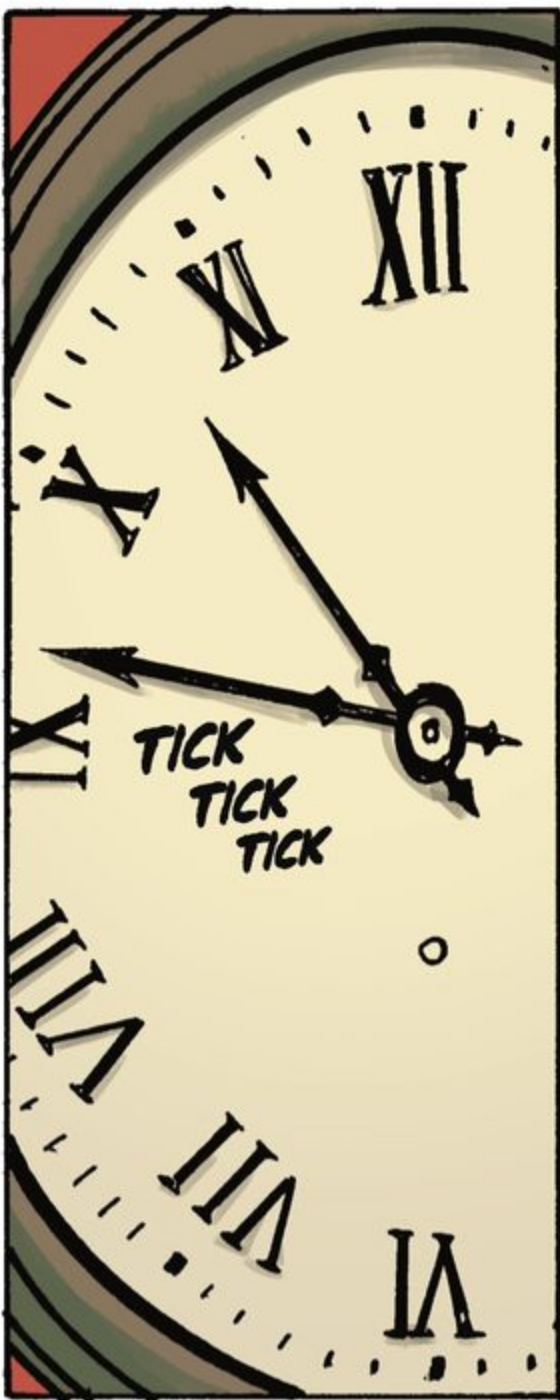
BREAKOUT

MAY



© & TM DC.

FRAMED. OUTLAWED. HUNTED.





THE STRAW MAN

SCOTT SNYDER
WRITER

FRANK MARTIN
COLORIST

NICK DRAGOTTA
ARTIST

TOM NAPOLITANO
LETTERER

DRAGOTTA & MARTIN
COVER

KRIS ANKA, FABRIZIO DE TOMMASO,
KYUYONG EOM, NICK ROBLES, JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ,
RICKIE YAGAWA & ALEX SINCLAIR,
AND JAHNOY LINDSAY
VARIANT COVERS

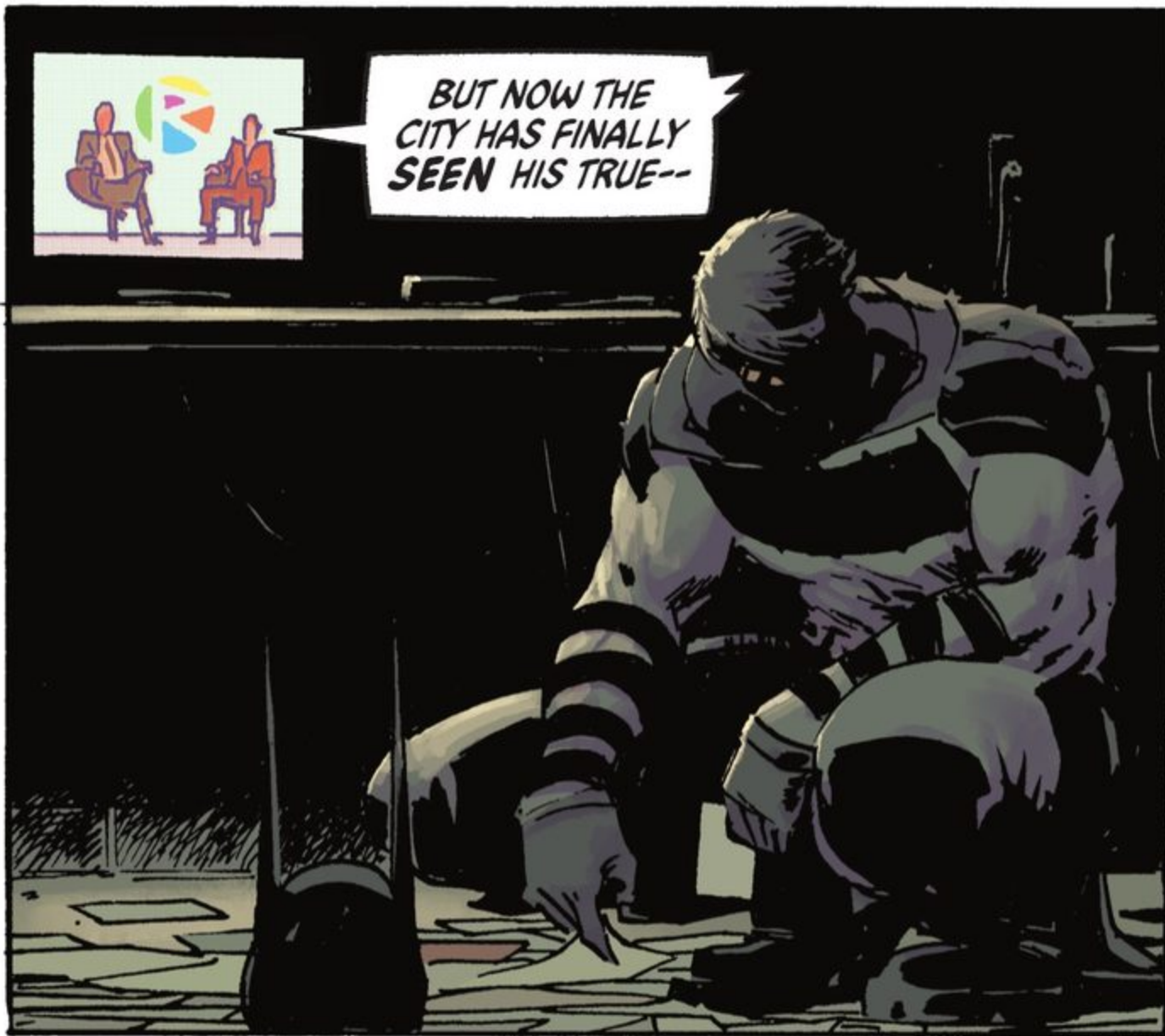
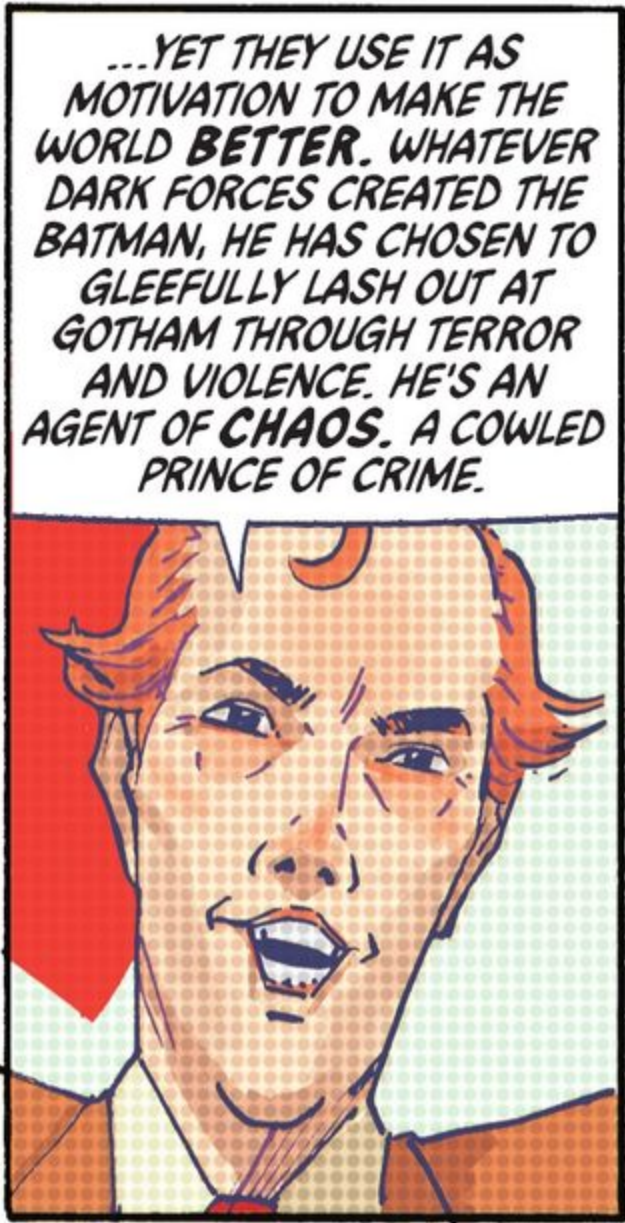
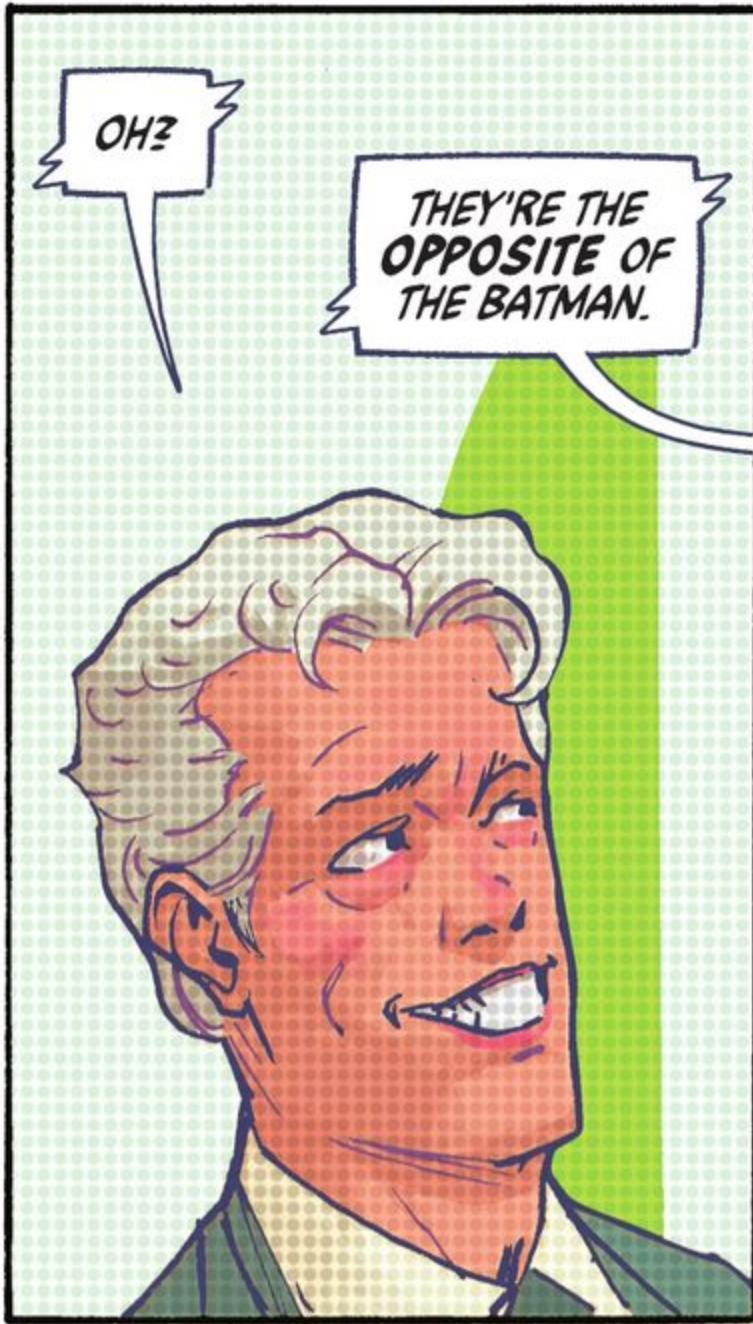
MARTIN SIMMONDS
1:25 VARIANT COVER

SABRINA FUTCH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

KATIE KUBERT
EDITOR

CHRIS CONROY
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER



Dr. Crane
believes Bruce
to be
susceptible







KID?

IT'S BEEN DAYS...I'M GOING TO NEED SOME PROOF OF LIFE OR--



OUT OF THE WAY!

WHAT ARE--

MS. QUINN! IT'S A COMPUTERIZED VAULT! A **SIMPLE HAMMER** WON'T--



IT'S NOT A "HAMMER." IT'S A NINETY-TWO-THOUSAND VOLT MAGNESIUM-AMPLIFIED DOUBLE LITHIUM ELECTROCHEMICAL THUNDER @#%\$. M.A.L.L.E.T. 92. NOTHING I USE IS "SIMPLE," JEEVES. NOW **MOVE!**

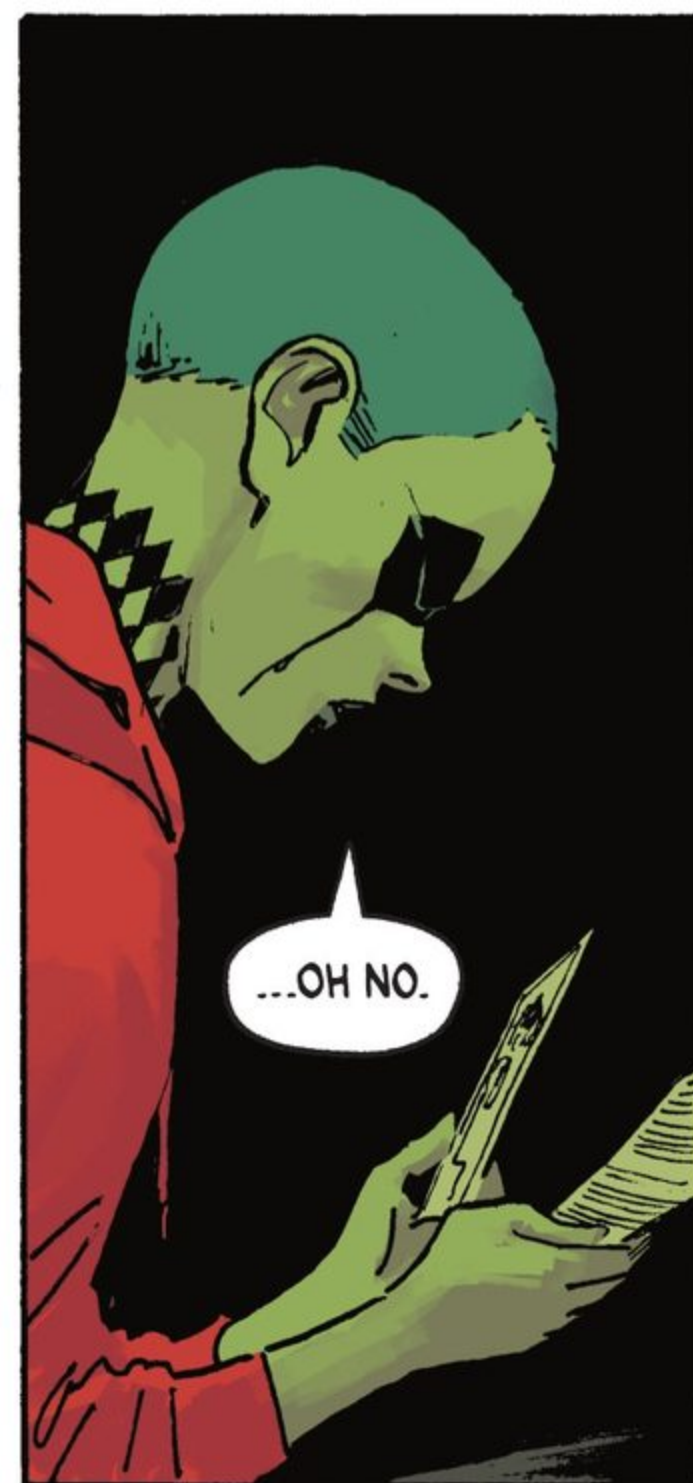


...DEMON CHILD.

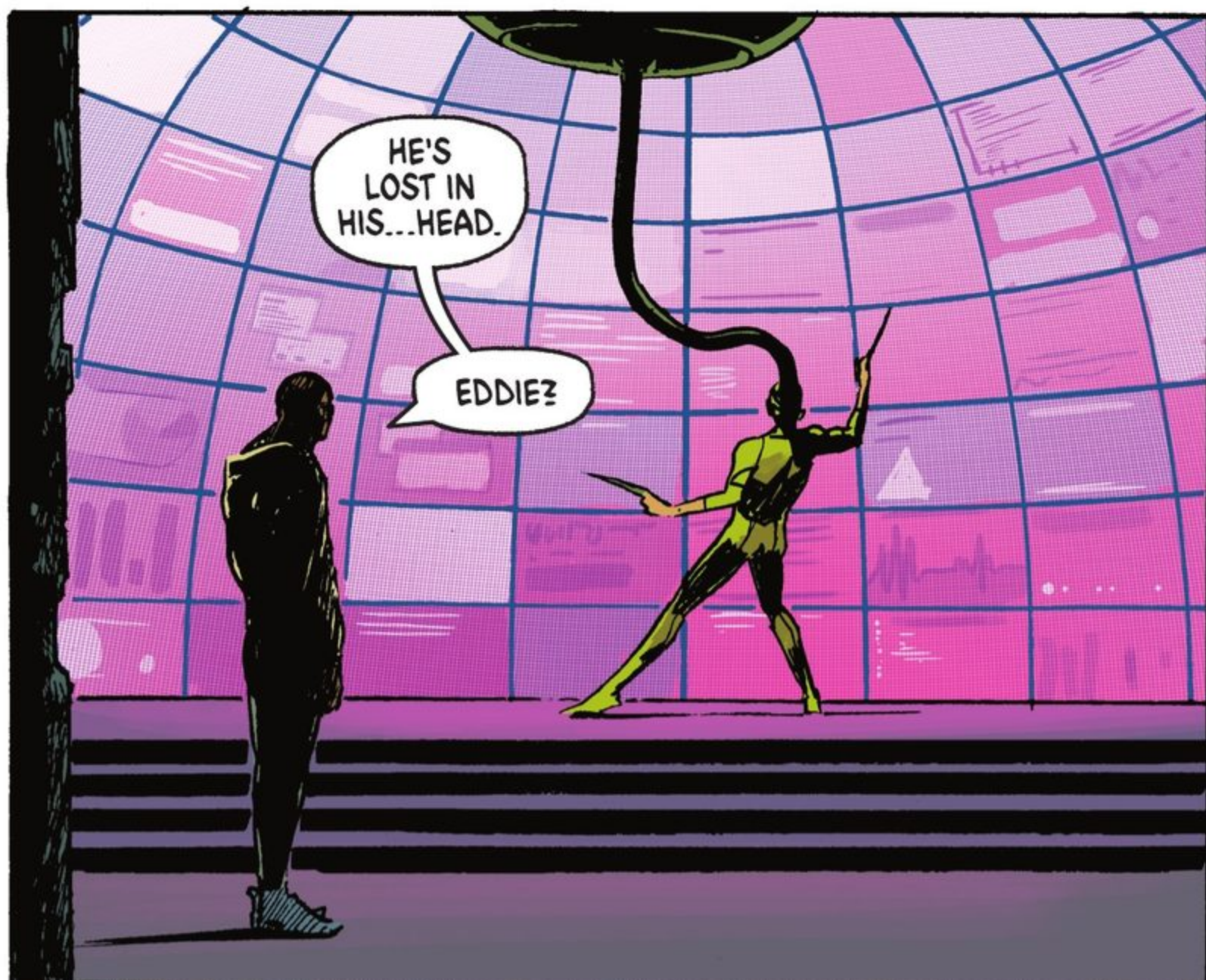


KID?
BRUCE!

HE'S GONE, TURNED HIS COMMS OFF, TOO. ANY IDEAS, MS. QUINN?



...OH NO.





LORD...
"OCCUPIED"
OR NOT, WE **NEED**
TO FIGURE THIS
THING OUT.

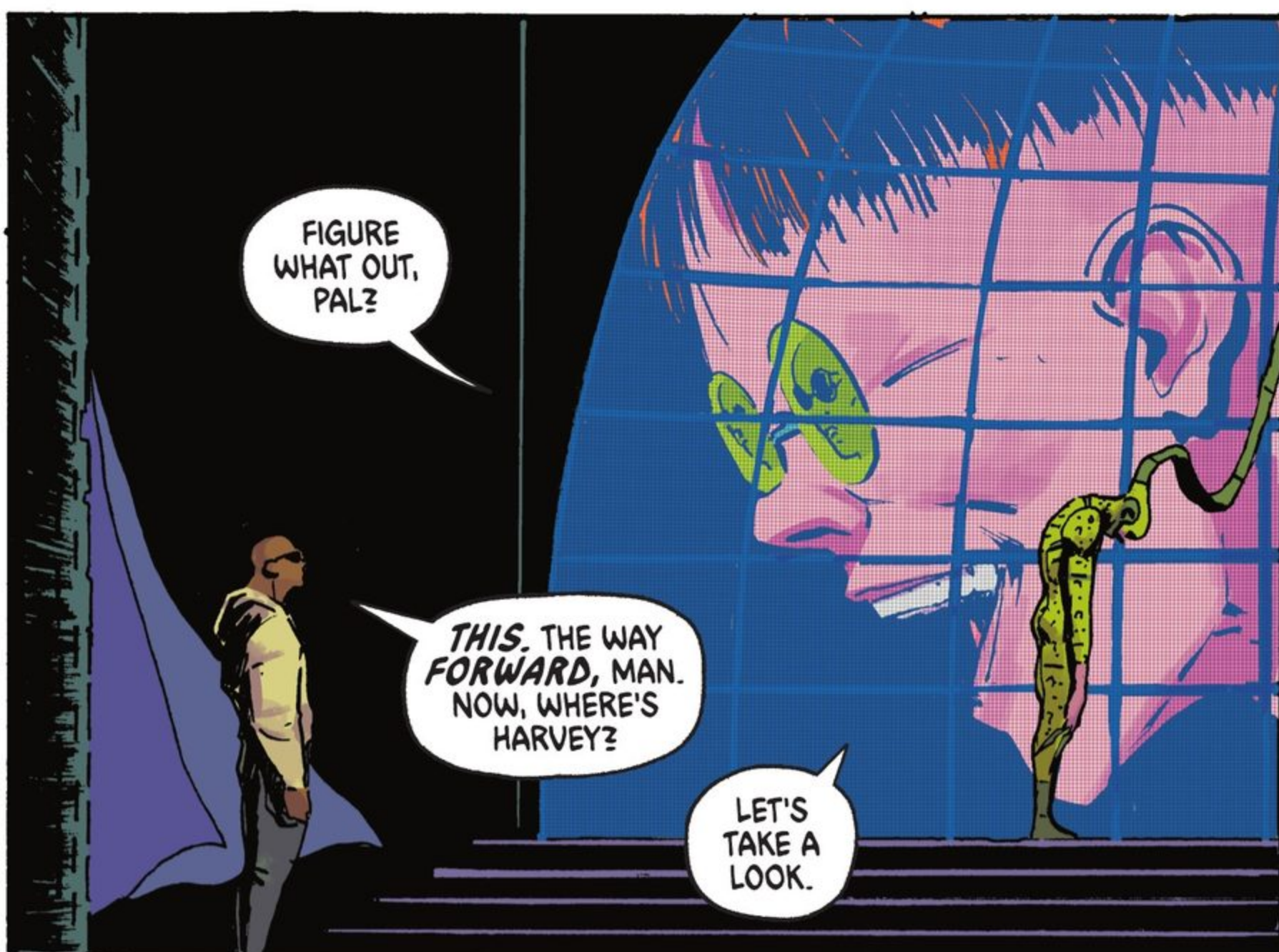


FIGURE
WHAT OUT,
PAL?

THIS. THE WAY
FORWARD, MAN.
NOW, WHERE'S
HARVEY?

LET'S
TAKE A
LOOK.

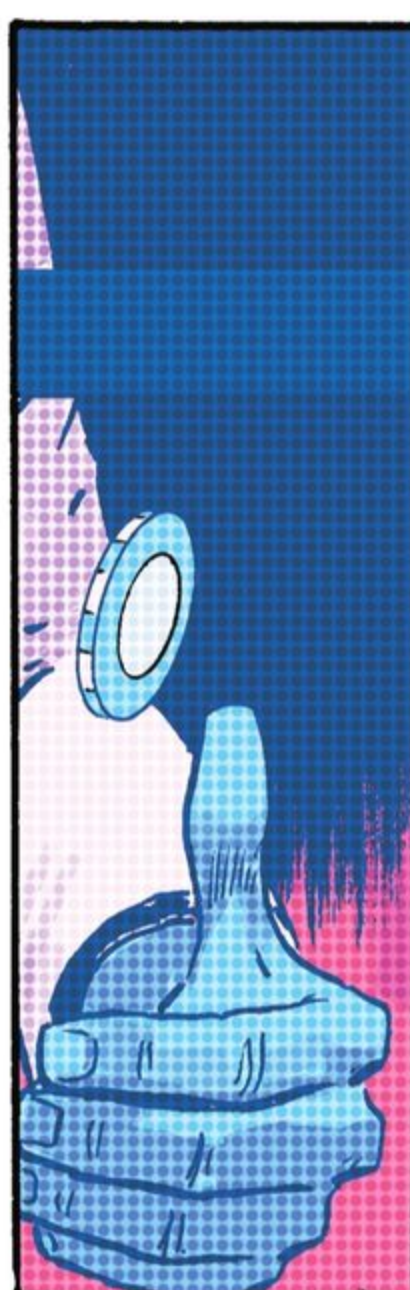


GIRLS, ORDER
WHATEVER YOU
WANT TONIGHT.
SKY'S THE
LIMIT!

YOU
SERIOUS?
THANKS,
BABY!



DON'T THANK
ME, HONEY. THANK
THE **BATMAN**.



39 CASES IN ALL.
KILLERS, THIEVES.
SET FREE BECAUSE
OF HARVEY'S
PARTNERSHIP WITH
BATMAN. SO YEAH,
OCCUPIED.



...
AND
OZZIE?



I DON'T KNOW, BOSS.
MAYBE WE CALL IT A NIGHT?
EVERYONE WENT TO COSMO'S.
THE DANCE FLOOR IS DEAD
OUT THERE.

IT'S #\$\$%^
TEN O'CLOCK.
TELL DJ TUNDRA
TO BLAST IT,
CRANK UP THE
DRY ICE--

TUNDRA
WENT TO
COSMO'S, TOO.
TOOK THE ICE
WITH HIM.



...FINE, LET'S GO TO
COSMO'S THEN. IF
THAT'S THE \$%^ & PLACE
TO BE.

MR. COBBLE--

GET
MY DANCING
SHOES, MOE. THE
BRIGHT, SHINY
GOLD ONES...



...OH,
AND GET
THE C-4.



LIKE I SAID, EVERYONE'S OCCUPIED WITH--
UNH!

ENOUGH!
WE'RE FALLING
APART HERE!
GET OFF THIS
"OCCUPIED"
#\$%^, WILL
YOU?



NO. OCCUPIED
AS IN **OCCUPARE.**
ORIGINAL MEANING, "TO
SIEZE CONTROL OF A
PLACE." WE'RE LIKE CITIES
THAT BANE SACKED. EACH
OF US BURNED TO THE
GROUND.



NOW? WE'RE
NOT "FALLING APART."
WE'RE TRYING TO
PUT OURSELVES BACK
TOGETHER...TAKE BACK
SOME MODICUM OF
CONTROL.

THEY BURNED
ME DOWN, TOO,
YOU KNOW.



OF COURSE
I KNOW THAT.
BUT YOU'RE **FIXED**
NOW, WAY. AND
I'M HAPPY FOR
YOU. TRULY.

BUT I CAN STILL
FEEL THE PARTS OF
MY BRAIN THAT AREN'T AS
FAST OR ACCURATE AS THEY
WERE BEFORE. IT'S LIKE THIS...
RIDDLE I CAN'T SOLVE. LIKE
THIS CORE **PIECE** OF ME IS
MISSING AND I DON'T KNOW
IF IT'S EVER GOING TO COME
BACK. YOU DON'T KNOW
WHAT THAT'S LIKE...
NOT ANYMORE.



YEAH,
EDDIE,
I DO.



AND HOW WE SEIZE BACK
CONTROL IS **TOGETHER.**
THAT'S THE ANSWER TO
YOUR RIDDLE.

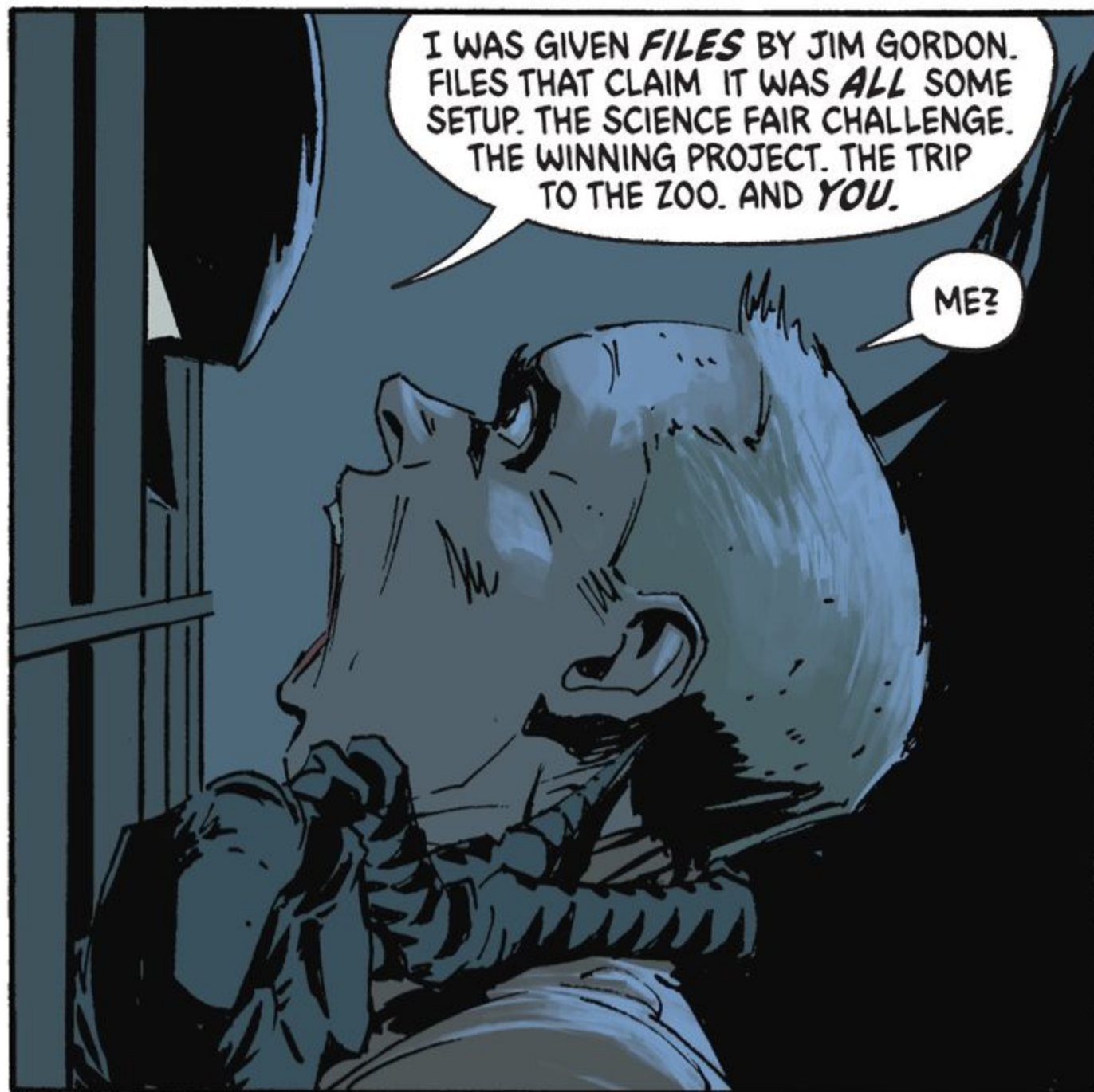
AHHH, I SEE WHAT YOU
DID THERE. YOU KNOW, I
GOTTA SAY, I LIKE THE
YELLOW! YOU'RE ONE
OF US, BUDDY.

NOW JUST
FOR THE SAKE OF
ARGUMENT, WHAT
ARE YOU THINKING
WE DO ABOUT
BRUCE?



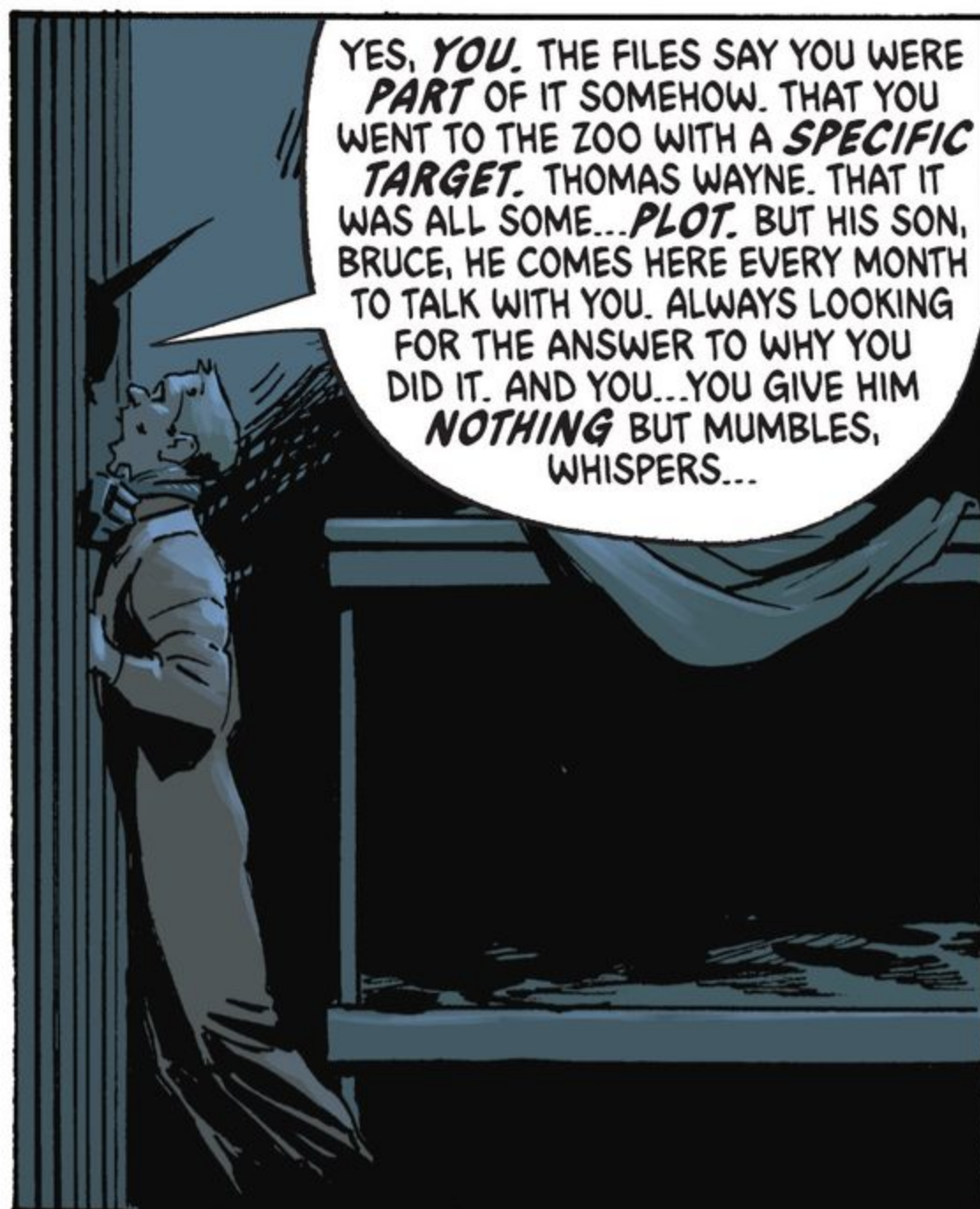






I WAS GIVEN *FILES* BY JIM GORDON. FILES THAT CLAIM IT WAS *ALL* SOME SETUP. THE SCIENCE FAIR CHALLENGE. THE WINNING PROJECT. THE TRIP TO THE ZOO. AND *YOU*.

ME?



YES, *YOU*. THE FILES SAY YOU WERE *PART* OF IT SOMEHOW. THAT YOU WENT TO THE ZOO WITH A *SPECIFIC TARGET*. THOMAS WAYNE. THAT IT WAS ALL SOME...*PLOT*. BUT HIS SON, BRUCE, HE COMES HERE EVERY MONTH TO TALK WITH YOU. ALWAYS LOOKING FOR THE ANSWER TO WHY YOU DID IT. AND YOU...YOU GIVE HIM *NOTHING* BUT MUMBLES, WHISPERS...



...THAT MAN, HE *PORES* OVER THE TAPES, TRYING TO DECIPHER THEM, DECIPHER *YOU*. ALL IN AN EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND, TO STOP IT FROM HAPPENING AGAIN TO SOME OTHER KID.

ALL THE FORCES THAT *MADE* YOU, THE COMPLEX %\$#*&@ CIRCUMSTANCES. BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME IT'S *THAT* SIMPLE? YOU WERE AN AGENT OF SOME MASTER PLAN?!

NO...BUT YOU *KNOW* SOMETHING? WHY ELSE WOULD YOU SUDDENLY STOP TALKING TO BRUCE WAYNE? AND IT'S JUST A *COINCIDENCE* THEY MOVE YOU TO THIS NEW WING RIGHT AFTER THAT?



*HELP ME!
SOMEONE!
PLEASE!*

*SAY
IT!*



*SAY IT'S
A LIE!*



EASY THERE, FRIENDS.

FNAP



...*YOU*.
YOU KILLED
JIM GORDON.

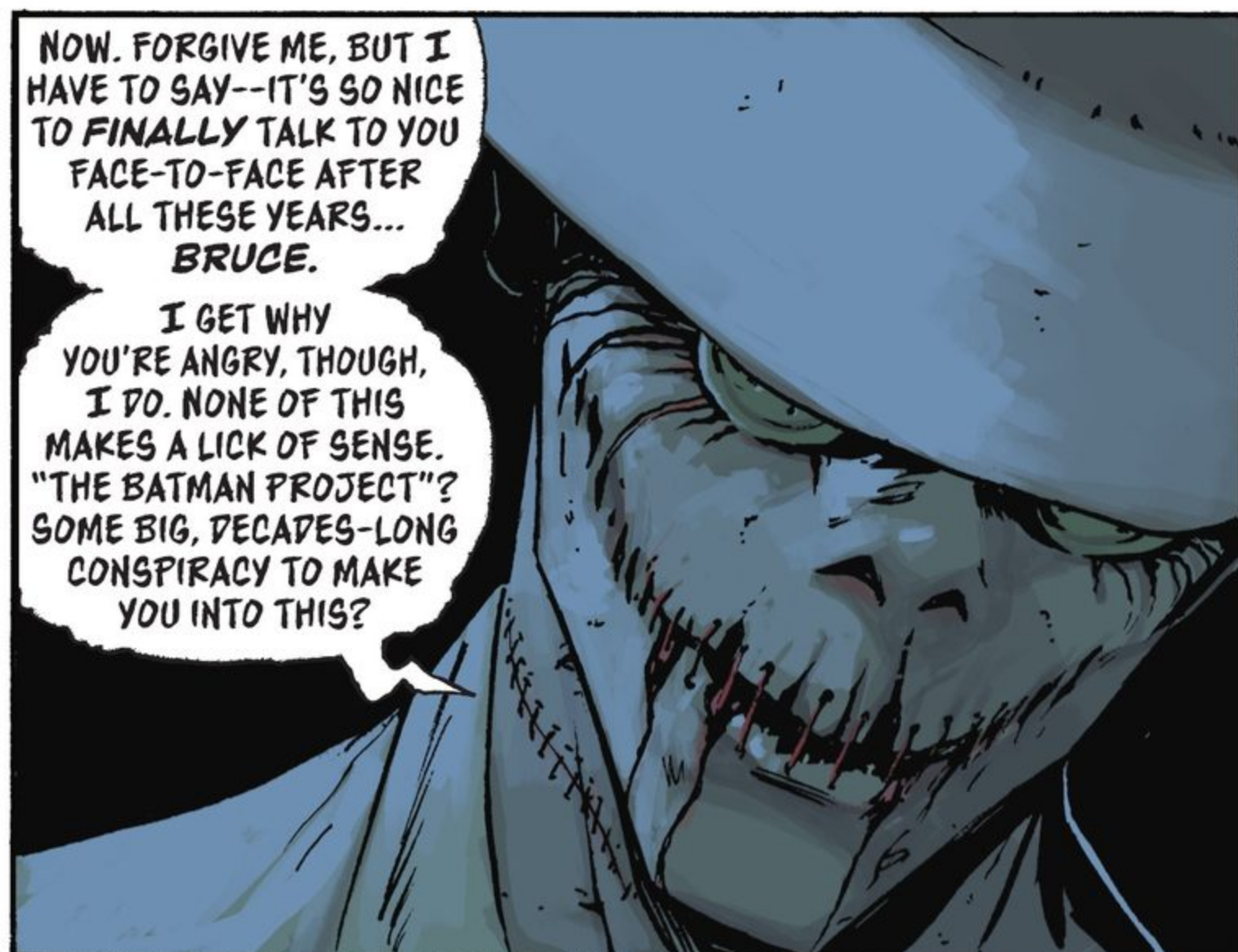


ME? I HEARD IT WAS YOU. BUT MY GUESS? IT JUST BECAME TOO MUCH FOR HIM. HAPPENS A LOT THESE DAYS...



...JOE, HOW ABOUT YOU LET THE TWO OF US TALK? MAYBE GO MAKE YOUR BED?

...SURE. GOOD IDEA.



NOW. FORGIVE ME, BUT I HAVE TO SAY--IT'S SO NICE TO FINALLY TALK TO YOU FACE-TO-FACE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS... BRUCE.

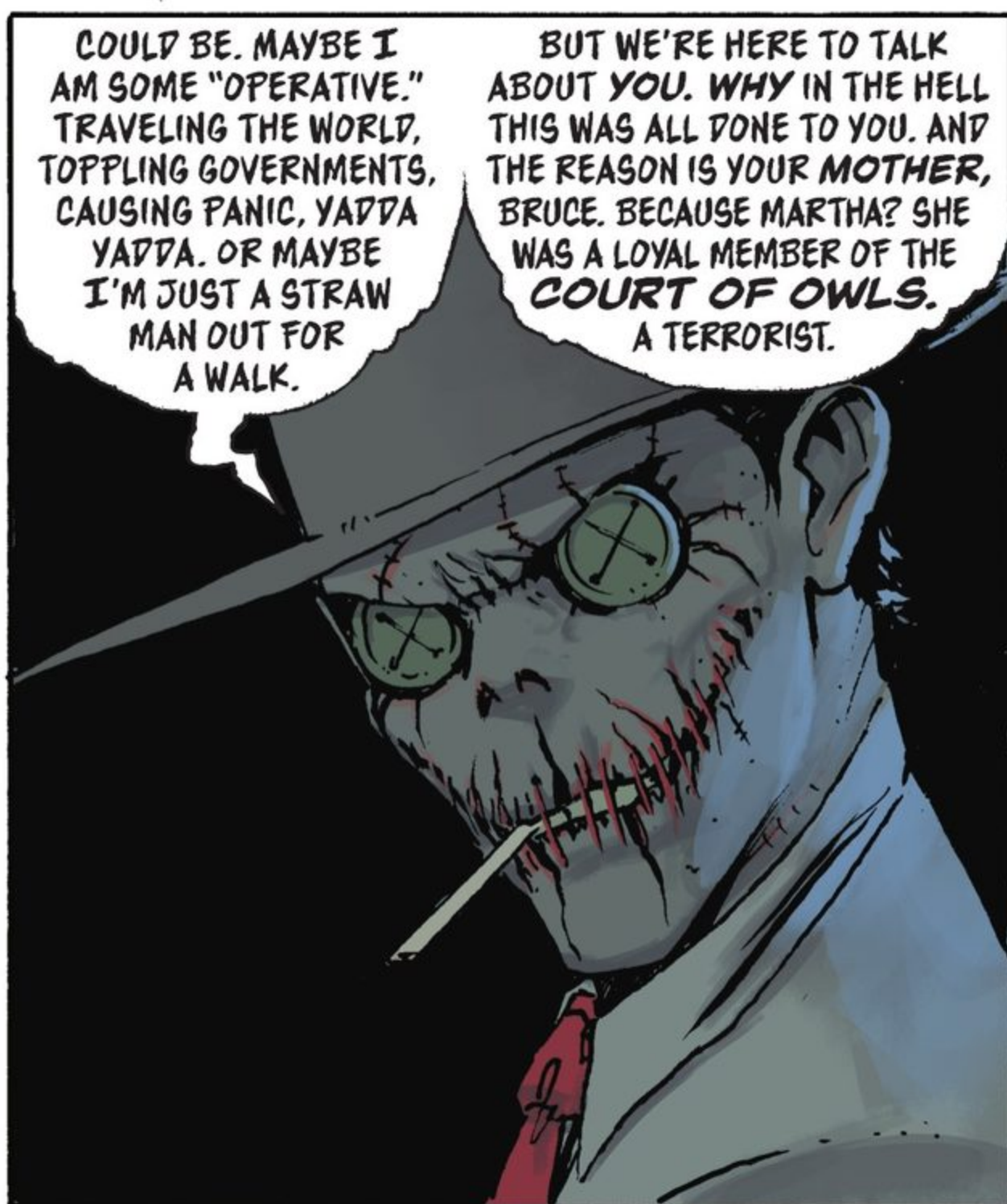
I GET WHY YOU'RE ANGRY, THOUGH, I DO. NONE OF THIS MAKES A LICK OF SENSE. "THE BATMAN PROJECT"? SOME BIG, DECADES-LONG CONSPIRACY TO MAKE YOU INTO THIS?



BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE MISSING THE KEY. THE **REASON** FOR IT. WHY **YOU** OF ALL PEOPLE? BUT SEE, THAT'S THE BEST PART.



WHY WOULD I LISTEN TO YOU? YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER ONE OF HIS #\$\$%^ OPERATIVES.



COULD BE. MAYBE I AM SOME "OPERATIVE." TRAVELING THE WORLD, TOPPLING GOVERNMENTS, CAUSING PANIC, YADDA YADDA. OR MAYBE I'M JUST A STRAW MAN OUT FOR A WALK.

BUT WE'RE HERE TO TALK ABOUT YOU. WHY IN THE HELL THIS WAS ALL DONE TO YOU. AND THE REASON IS YOUR MOTHER, BRUCE. BECAUSE MARTHA? SHE WAS A LOYAL MEMBER OF THE **COURT OF OWLS**. A TERRORIST.



SHUT UP!





I'M AFRAID NOT, BUDDY. IT'S THE ONE PART GORDON HID FROM YOU, GOD REST HIS TROUBLED SOUL. HE FIGURED IT'D BE TOO MUCH. BUT IT'S TRUE. IN FACT, IT'S WHERE YOUR MOTHER RAN OFF TO. THEIR "SUPER-SECRET HEADQUARTERS." THOUGH FROM WHAT I HEAR... THAT DIDN'T END TOO WELL, EITHER.



WHAT? MIND REELING? DENYING IT? JUST THINK BACK TO THAT DAY AT THE ZOO. YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER ANY SIGNS? A CAWING FROM HIGH ABOVE, MAYBE?

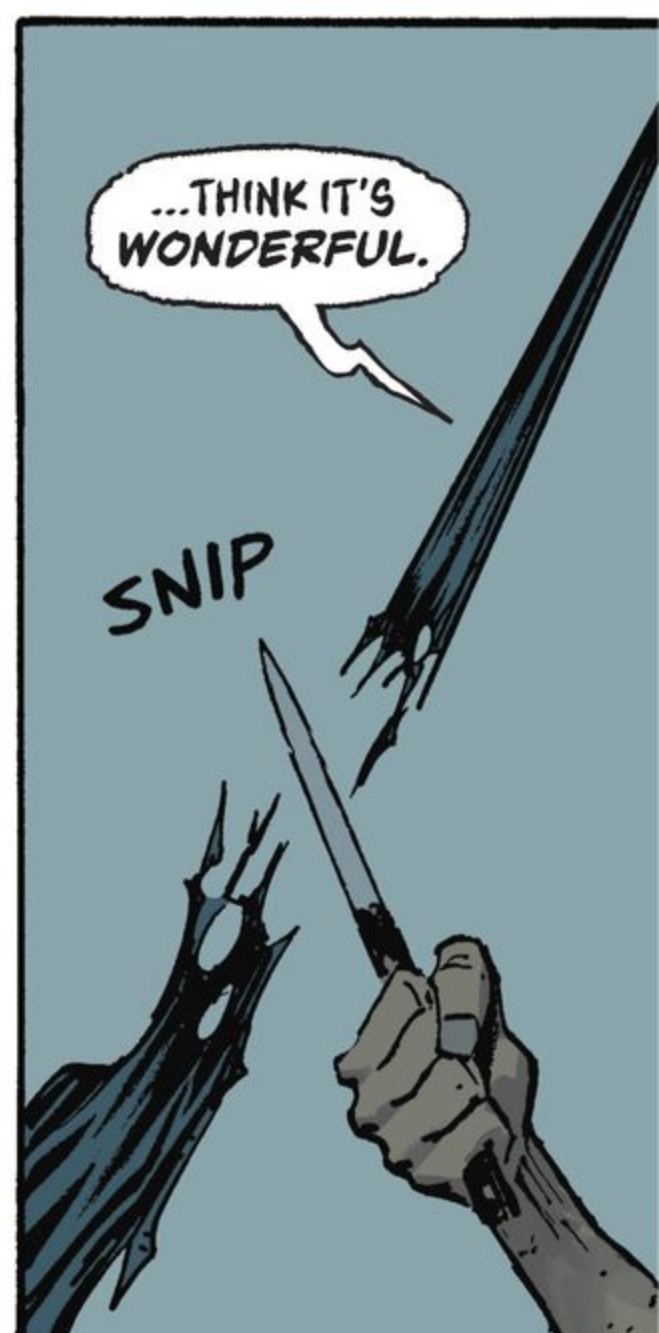
YEAH, YOU REMEMBER...



NOW, I KNOW IT'S HARD, REALIZING YOUR WHOLE LIFE WAS SOME PROJECT, BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS, IT'S NOT!

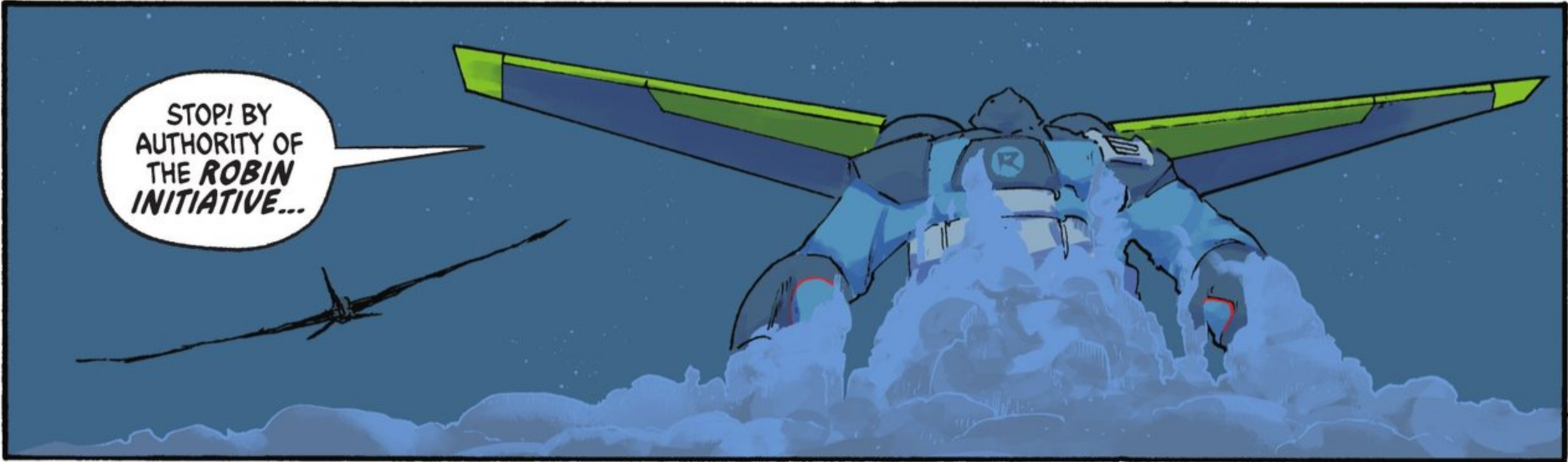
SEE, GRIMM AND I, WE THOUGHT IT'D BE FUNNY. AFTER ALL, WHAT'S THE NATURAL PREY OF AN OWL, BRUCE? THAT'S RIGHT... A BAT! THAT'S THE WHY OF YOUR LIFE. BATMAN ISN'T A PROJECT. HE'S A JOKE.

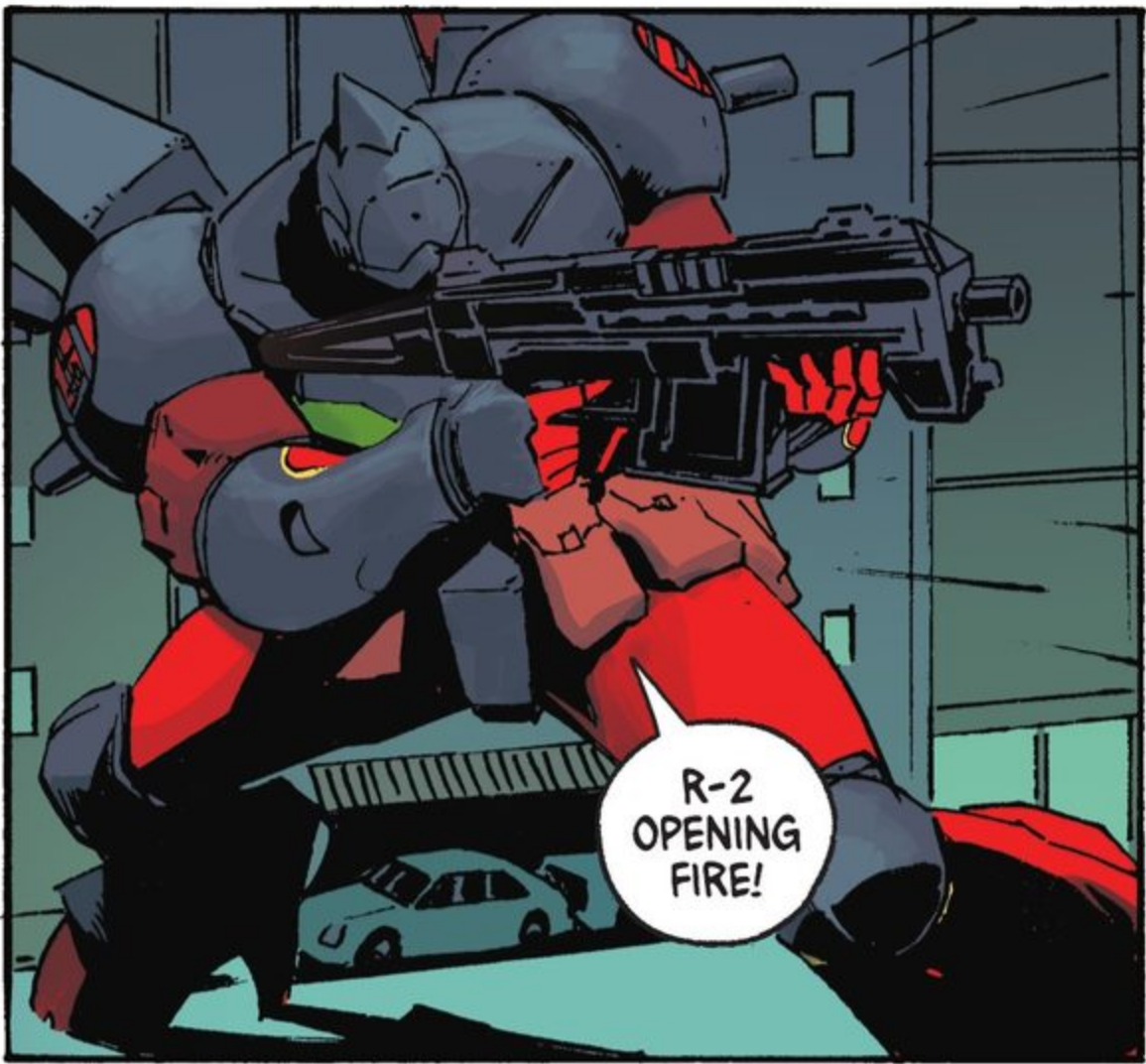
YOU DONE MAKING YOUR BED, JOE?

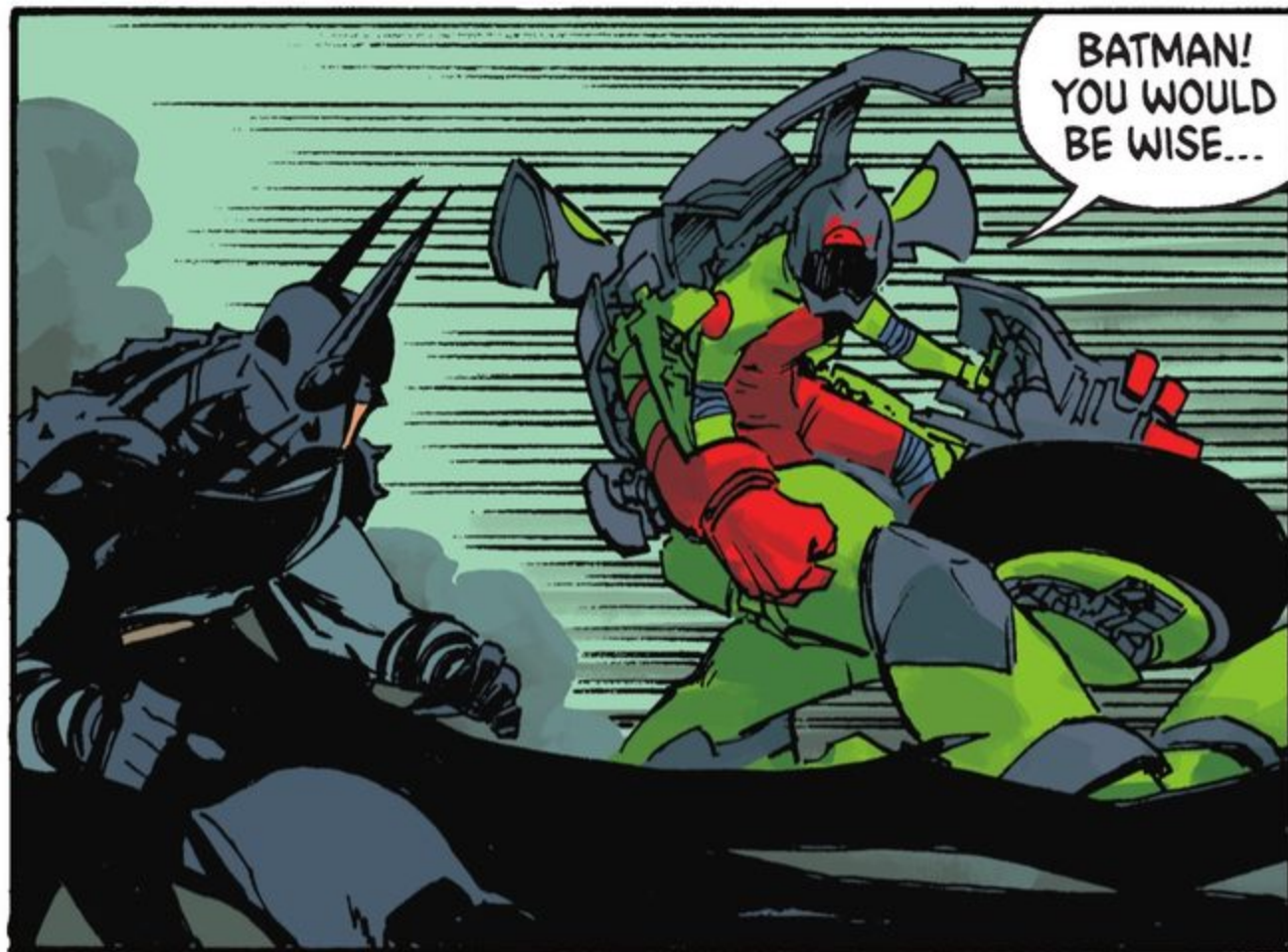














ABSOLUTE
GREEN ARROW
#1 PREVIEW

WRITER PORNSAK PICHETSHOTE
ART RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE
COLORS MARCELO MAIOLA
LETTERS JEFF POWELL



AN
EXAMPLE.

DETAILS ARE STILL
UNRELEASED CONCERNING
THE DEATH OF BILLIONAIRE
JUBAL SLADE--A TECH
ENTREPRENEUR BEST KNOWN
AS THE **COFOUNDER** OF
THE ELECTRONIC TRADING
PLATFORM **GREENARROWS**
TRADING...

TO BE CONTINUED IN

ABSOLUTE
GREEN ARROW #1

ON SALE IN MAY!



THE ABSOLUTE UNIVERSE EXPANDS WITH
TWO UNBELIEVABLE NEW 6-ISSUE MINISERIES

ALL IN

ABSOLUTE GREEN ARROW



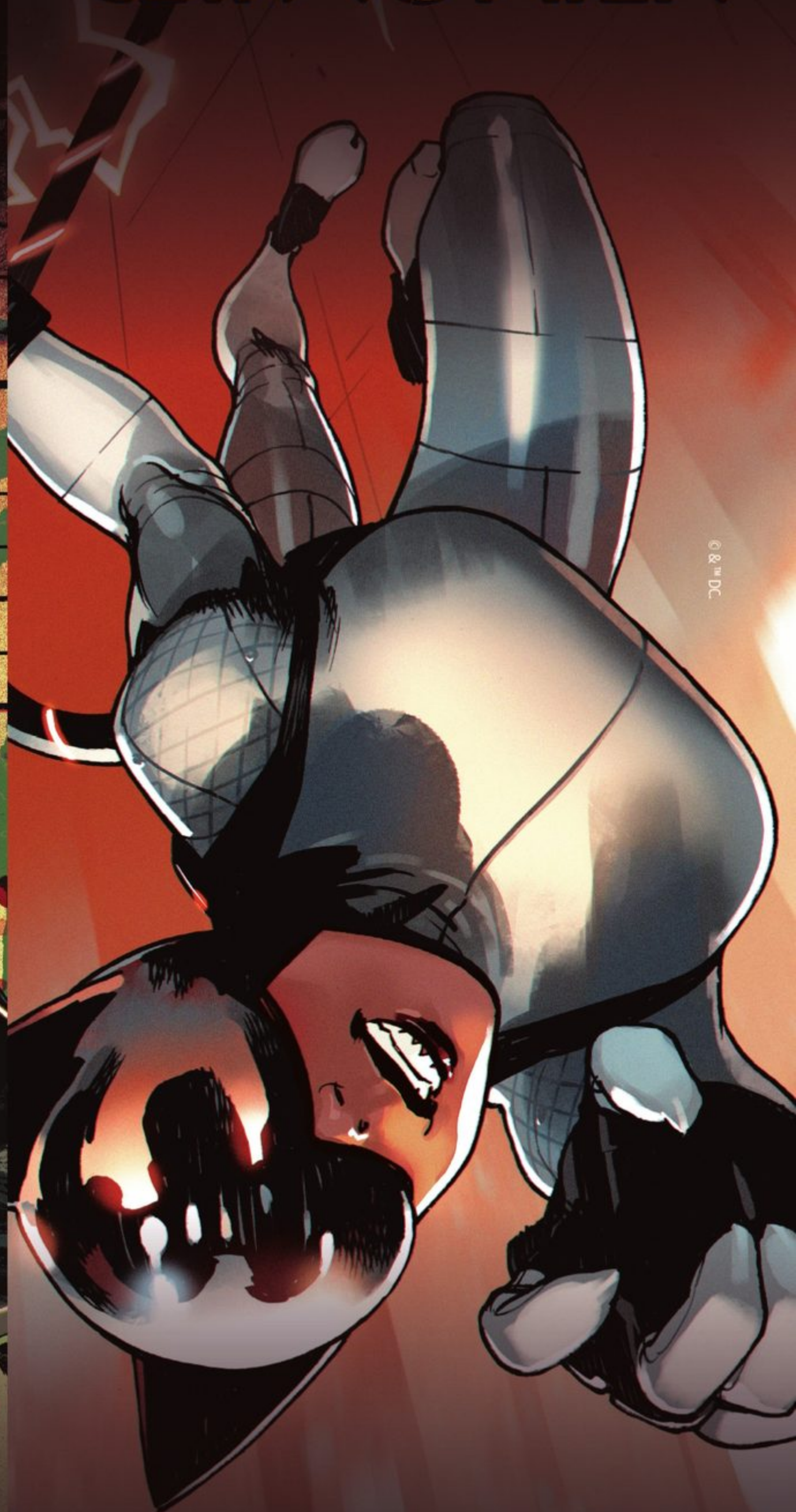
WRITTEN BY
PORNSAK PICHETSHOTE

ART BY
RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

**NO TRICK ARROWS.
NO MERCY.
ABSOLUTE HUNTER.**

AVAILABLE MAY

ABSOLUTE CATWOMAN



WRITTEN BY
CHE GRAYSON AND SCOTT SNYDER

ART BY
BENGAL

**ALL THE WEALTH.
ALL THE GEAR.
ABSOLUTE APEX PREDATOR.**

AVAILABLE JUNE

DC NATION **SPOTLIGHT ON**

BARBARA GORDON

BREAKOUT



INTERVIEW WITH **MARIKO TAMAKI**

Survival is the name of the game in *Barbara Gordon: Breakout*. Eisner Award-winning writer Mariko Tamaki, alongside fan-favorite artist Amancay Nahuelpan, takes one of DC's most strategic and resilient heroes and strands her in a remote prison designed for the world's most dangerous inmates, many of whom she helped put away. Outnumbered and cut off from her team, Barbara must rely on instinct, intelligence, and sheer will to endure.

A MASTERMIND CUT OFF.

The idea behind this book is that Barbara Gordon has spent much of her time as part of the best team. What makes her incredible is that she's someone who can lead a team to victory. So the question became: What happens when you take someone who's so good at that and pull her out of that environment?

Now she's trapped in an island prison in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by people she helped put behind bars.



A PRISON NO ONE ESCAPES.

This is a place where GCPD Commissioner Vandal Savage has sent everyone he doesn't want in the general population, and it's not a day care center. You can't raise your hand and expect someone to help you. The guards stationed there aren't there to assist anyone; their job is specifically not to help.

My artist, Amancay Nahuelpan, has drawn this prison as something truly terrifying. It feels like the loneliest, least inviting place on the planet. It's inspired by the worst aspects of prison, very Alcatraz-adjacent. Even if you managed to escape, where would you go? The waters surrounding it are filled with dangers. There is no easy way out.

SURVIVAL STARTS HERE.

At its heart, this is a story about survival, surviving an impossible situation. You don't need to know Barbara Gordon's full history as Batgirl to understand what it means to be placed in a terrifying environment where you're intensely outnumbered.

You don't have to know the entire comic book canon to love a hero. That's something DC does incredibly well. You don't need every detail of every version to connect with an individual story.

BREAK THE SYSTEM. BREAK THE HERO.

With any prison story, there are tropes. We're used to seeing writers play with those conventions, and part of the job is identifying the foundational beats of a prison story and then finding ways to subvert them.

It's also about uncovering unexpected character moments. Superheroes are usually at the top of their game. It sounds harsh to say you want to unsettle a character, but sometimes you do—you want to put them in a situation they can't immediately respond to, something that throws them off balance.



A WORLD YOU CAN FEEL.

Amancay and I previously worked together on *Crush & Lobo*. With that first issue you do with an artist, you're getting a feel for how they work, how they draw faces, bodies, spaces, and the relationships between all those elements.

I have tremendous faith in his ability to create this world, the mood, the tone, the atmosphere. Everything I've seen so far has been incredible. I love what he does. I feel like I'm writing to what he draws, and he's drawing to what I'm writing. It's a really amazing collaboration.



**DON'T MISS
BARBARA GORDON:
BREAKOUT
ON SALE MAY**

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